

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internatio lication No

PCT/IB 03/02735

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G02F1/167

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G02F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data, INSPEC, COMPENDEX, IBM-TDB

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
P,X	US 6 426 737 B1 (SIMPSON WILLIAM H ET AL) 30 July 2002 (2002-07-30) column 3, line 11 -column 9, line 26; figures 1-6	1-4
P,X	US 2002/150827 A1 (YAMAMOTO HIROKAZU ET AL) 17 October 2002 (2002-10-17) paragraph '0048! - paragraph '0063! paragraph '0084! - paragraph '0092!; figure 1	1-3
A	EP 1 162 496 A (MIWA SCIENCE LAB INC) 12 December 2001 (2001-12-12) paragraph '0063! - paragraph '0086!; figures 1-4 paragraph '0198! - paragraph '0200! -/--	1-4



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
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T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

G document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

15 October 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

23/10/2003

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6 177 947 B1 (SIMPSON WILLIAM H ET AL) 23 January 2001 (2001-01-23) column 3, line 35 -column 11, line 24; figures 1-4 ---	1-4
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2000, no. 05, 14 September 2000 (2000-09-14) & JP 2000 062316 A (TOSHIBA CORP), 29 February 2000 (2000-02-29) abstract; figures 1-3,11 -----	1-4

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International	Publication No
PCT/IB 03/02735	

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6426737	B1	30-07-2002	NONE	
US 2002150827	A1	17-10-2002	JP 2002365670 A	18-12-2002
EP 1162496	A	12-12-2001	AU 3076300 A	07-08-2000
			EP 1162496 A1	12-12-2001
			WO 0043835 A1	27-07-2000
US 6177947	B1	23-01-2001	NONE	
JP 2000062316	A	29-02-2000	NONE	